

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

RE: THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware, as required by the Examiner.

Submitted herewith is a marked copy of the original specification to show that no new matter has been added, and a substitute specification incorporating all of the amendments is submitted herewith.

RE: THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 3 has been amended to replace the second occurrence of reference numeral 37 with reference numeral 60 to designate the external package. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendment to Fig. 3 be approved and entered.

RE: THE ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's allowance of claims 13-18 and the Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 2, 3, 9 and 19 are respectfully acknowledged.

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended so as to be placed in independent form, and to include all of the limitations of their parent (amended) claim 1.

In addition, claims 2, 3, 9 and 13-19 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems, as well as to correct all of the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

In particular, it is noted that claim 9 has been amended to clarify the feature of the present invention whereby the conductive powder alternatively comprises at least one of TiO_2 and BaSO_4 covered by the at least one of SnO_2 and ZnO .

No new matter has been added, and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 2, 3, 9 and 13-19 be approved and entered, and it is respectfully submitted that these claims remain in condition for allowance.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 4 is also now in condition for immediate allowance.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the amendments to these claims are not related to patentability, and do not narrow the scope of these claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

RE: THE REJECTED CLAIMS

Claims 1, 5-8 and 10-12 have been amended to more clearly and positively recite the features of the present invention, as well as to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems. All of the informalities pointed out by the Examiner have been corrected.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1, 5-8 and 10-12 be approved and entered.

According to clarified amended independent claim 1, a solid electrolytic capacitor is provided which comprises a first electrolyte element which is provided in an electrolyte layer formed on the dielectric layer and which defines a plurality of cavities. Non-conductive particles are dispersed in the cavities defined by the first electrolyte element, and a second electrolyte element is provided in the electrolyte layer so as to surround the non-conductive particles. A cathode member is formed on the electrolyte layer such that particles of a material of the cathode member are dispersed in the electrolyte layer. See Fig. 4 and the disclosure in the specification at pages 12-14.

With this structure, non-conductive particles are provided at a predetermined concentration between the dielectric layer and the electrolyte layer, and particularly between a defective part

of the dielectric layer and the electrolyte layer. The electrolyte elements surround the non-conductive particles. Particles from the cathode member are thereby prevented from depositing on the defective part of the dielectric layer without increasing the equivalent serial resistance of the solid electrolytic capacitor. As a result, with the structure of the claimed present invention the electrolytic capacitor prevents the concentration of an electric field, which results from the deposition of conductive materials onto the defective part of the dielectric layer.

And it is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest the above-described distinguishing structural features and advantageous effects of the structural features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1, as well as claims 5-8 and 10-12 depending therefrom, patentably distinguish over all of the cited references under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

RE: CLAIM FEE

The application previously contained 19 claims of which 2 were independent. The application now contains 19 claims, of which 4 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount

of \$86.00 for the addition of 1 extra independent is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be determined to be required to Account No. 06-1378.

RE: OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY SHEET

In the Office Action Summary Sheet, the Examiner did not indicate whether or not the drawings filed on July 14, 2003 were accepted. However, the Examiner did not issue any objections to the drawings. Therefore, it is assumed that the drawings have been accepted, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm that the drawings have been accepted.

RE: THE IDS FILED MARCH 19, 2004

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A submitted with the IDS filed by facsimile on March 19, 2004 to indicate that the document listed therein was considered and made of record.

* * * * *


In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

Application No. 10/620,084
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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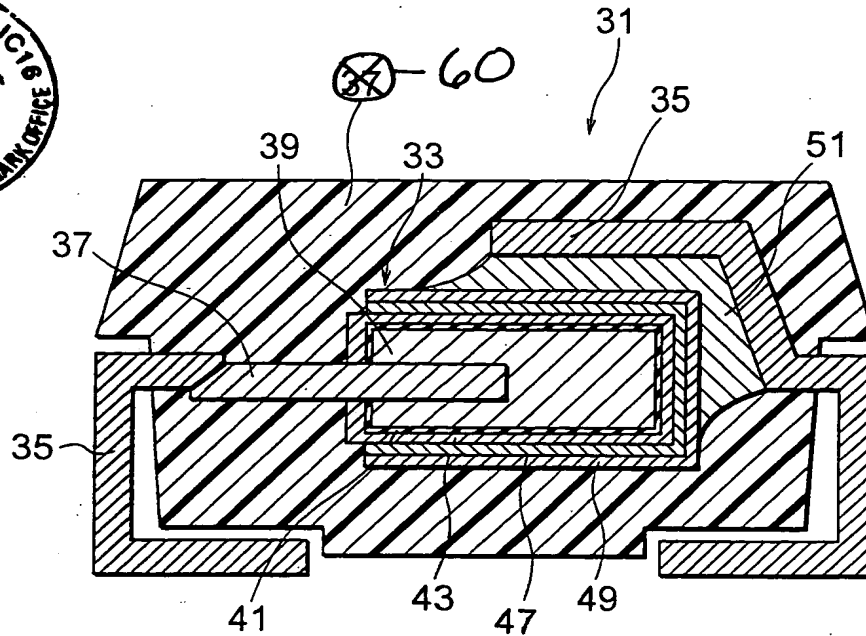


FIG. 3

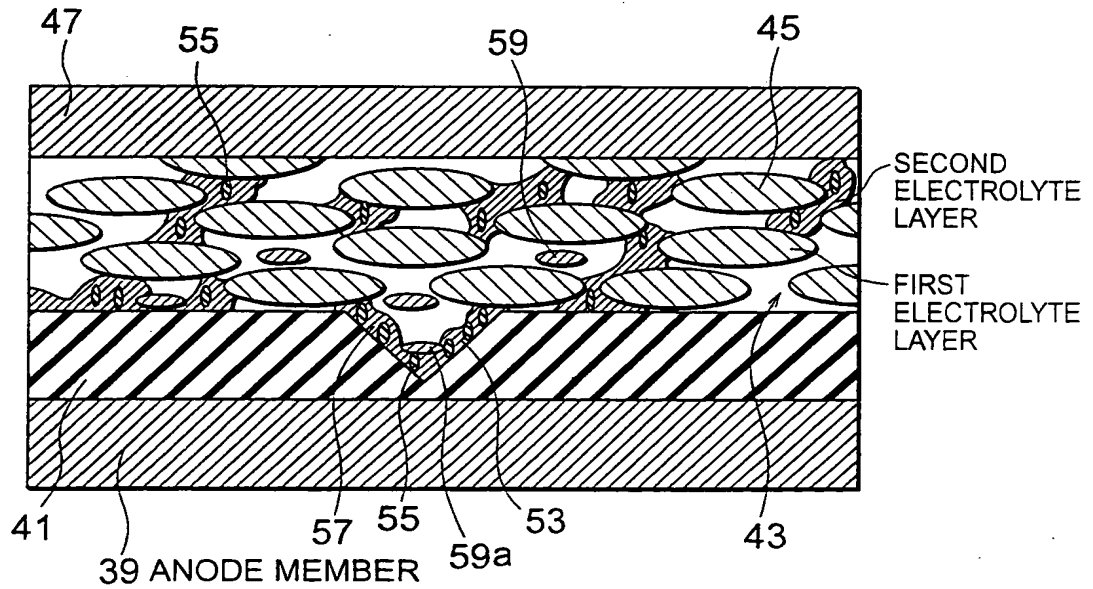


FIG. 4